

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 OMB-01 SAJ-01 SAM-01 ACDA-05 AID-05 /083 W

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R 281607Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5617

USUN NEW YORK 499

INFO AMEMBASSY COTONOU

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

US LIAISON OFFICE PEKING 007

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

C O N F I D E N T I A L ABIDJAN 9095

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IV, CH, TW, XB, XC

SUB: IVORIAN RELATIONS WITH REPUBLIC OF CHINA AND PEKING

REF: A. ABIDJAN 9089 B. 9094

1. IN THE COURSE OF A MEETING WITH FOREIGN MINISTER USHER ON OCTOBER 24 IN WHICH THERE WAS CONSIDERABLE DISCUSSION ABOUT IVORY COAST'S NEW DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH SOUTHEAST ASIA, THE AMBASSADOR ALSO INQUIRED WHETHER THE CHANGE IN DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS IN ASIA WOULD IN ANY WAY AFFECT GOIC'S RELATIONS WITH THE TWO CHINAS.

2. USHER SAID IT WOULD NOT AT THIS TIME. GOIC HAS NO INTEN-
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TION OF BREAKING OFF WITH REPUBLIC OF CHINA, WHICH IS ITS FRIEND

AND CONTINUES TO GIVE IT IMPORTANT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE. GOIC WOULD NOT GO TO PEKING TO REQUEST DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS. THE IVORIANS KNOW THEY WOULD BE REBUFFED UNLESS THEY BROKE WITH ROC. ON THE OTHER HAND, SAID USHER, IVORIAN DIPLOMATS ARE INSTRUCTED TO ATTEND PRC RECEPTIONS IN COUNTRIES WHERE PRC RATHER THAN ROC IS REPRESENTED. THEY ARE ALSO INSTRUCTED TO INVITE PRC DIPLOMATS TO IVORIAN RECEPTIONS. PRC SENDS NOTES VERBALES AND AIDE MEMORIES TO IVORIES EMBASSIES IN SUCH COUNTRIES BUT THESE COMMUNICATIONS ARE NOT ACKNOWLEDGED.

3. IN SUBSEQUENT CONVERSATION WITH ROC AMBASSADOR BERNARD JOEI, AMBASSADOR LEARNED THAT MEETING OF IVORIAN AMBASSADORS (ASSEMBLED IN ABIDJAN FOR SIXTH PARTY CONGRESS LAST WEEK) HAD LEANED TOWARD ESTABLISHING DIP RELATIONS WITH PRC; THE ONLY OPPOSING VOICE WAS IVORIAN AMBASSADOR TO JAPAN, ROK AND ROC. JOEI SAID USHER MERELY "TOOK NOTE". JOEI BELIEVES, AND WE CONCUR, THAT DECISION STILL RESTS ENTIRELY WITH HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY.

4. COMMENT: IT WOULD APPEAR THAT THE GOIC IS IN NO HURRY TO CHANGE ITS RELATIONSHIP TO THE TWO CHINAS. AID FROM AND TRADE WITH ROC AND TRADE WITH PRC CONTINUE DESPITE THIS ANOMALOUS SITUATION. NEVERTHELESS, IF U.S. POSITION CHANGED, GOIC'S WOULD CERTAINLY CHANGE.

SMITH

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